FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 MARCH 1986

Gulf Affairs; Iran-Iraq War

A French oil tanker was attacked by an unidentified plane some 70 miles northeast of Qatar on its way to lift crude oil at the Saudi port of Ra's Tannurah, WAKH disclosed. The ship headed for the UAE for repairs. No casualties were reported. In another Gulf development, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by IRNA responded to the GCC's recent criticisms of Iran by warning the Arab Gulf states that they "should not play with the fire kindled by Saddam." A commentary by the radio deplored the GCC's "inept stands" which will be recorded as "a black mark on the performance sheet of the GCC."

As for the military situation in the Iran-Iraq war, Tehran radio reported that Iranian naval forces fired at four "advanced" Iraqi naval vessels in the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway, sinking one and damaging the other three. An Iranian commander cited by IRNA stated that Iranian forces are holding out firmly in their positions in the Al-Faw area, and the agency said Iran has captured 2,000 Iraqis and killed or wounded some 20,000 in the course of the Al-Faw offensive. IRNA also reported that Iranian forces killed over 100 Iraqi soldiers and Iranian "counterrevolutionaries" in an attack on heights overlooking Halabjah, an Iraqi town located between Darband-i Khan reservoir and the Iranian border.

Israel

Noting that all the candidates who regarded themselves as prospective mayors in Ramallah and Al-Birah have withdrawn their candidacies in the wake of Zafir al-Masri's assassination, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told Jerusalem radio that IDF officers can continue to run affairs in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza until a political solution acceptable to the Israeli Government is found. IDF officers have done "an excellent job" in local government, he maintained, and Israel can go on holding these areas "without any particular problems." In contrast, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres disclosed that he is contemplating "new initiatives" for the peace process, stressing that Israel does not want to run the Arabs' affairs, according to IDF radio. Meanwhile, *HA'ARETZ reported that Peres' office is formulating a "self-*rule" plan for the Gaza Strip whereby the number of Israelis employed in the local administration will be reduced to a minimum.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi reaffirmed his threat to Israeli air traffic during a 2 March speech to the General Peoples Congress broadcast by Tripoli radio. He said Libya will intercept Israeli aircraft in any part of the Mediterranean that is within range of its warplanes, which will shoot down any Israeli plane that refuses to land after being intercepted. As for the Gulf of Sidra, Al-Qadhdhafi warned that any U.S. aircraft flying at the 32.5 degree latitude line will be downed by Libyan missiles, and he pointed out that Libya's SAM-5's can reach beyond this line outside the Gulf. He added that Libya will use surface-to-surface missiles to attack any U.S. warship entering the Gulf of Sidra. Libya will defend the Gulf "whatever the price," he said, asserting that "when I say we will fight, I do not care whether we will triumph or not."

Lebanon

A car-bomb exploded in Sidon 5 March, killing three men and wounding several other people, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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PDPA Sends Greetings to Mongolia on Anniversary

LD050731 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0438 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 4, BAKHTAR: The Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, PDPA, has sent a greeting message to Mongolian People's Republic on the occasion of the 65th founding anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, MPRP.

The PDPA holds in high esteem the great victories scored in the past sixty five years by the Mongolian people in the construction of a new society under the leadership of the MPRP.

The message expresses confidence that the fraternal relations and cooperation between the parties, governments and the peoples of the two countries based on proletarian internationalism are expanding ever-further in the interest of the peoples of both the countries and for the cause of peace and progress.

The message wishes ever-greater successes for the party and people of Mongolian People's Republic.

PDPA Delegation Meets Party Leaders in Moscow

LD281125 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] A high-ranking delegation of the DRA, headed by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revoluitonary Council, which is in Moscow at the invitation of the CPSU to take part in 27th Congress of the CPSU Central Committee, has met with Abdallah al-'Ahmar, deputy general secretary of Syria's Arab Socialist Ba'th party. The delegation discussed matters of subject of mutual interest with Al-'Ahmar.

Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, yesterday in Moscow met with Gisele Rabesahala, general secretary of the Congress Party for Malagasy Independence. Ziray also met yesterday William Kashtan, general secretary of the Central Committee of Communist Party of Canada. At this meeting the PDPA and the Communist Party of Canada concluded a cooperation protocol.

According to another report, Najibollah, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, today in Moscow met with Pedro Pires, assistant secretary general of African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde. Najibollah today in Moscow also met with Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party. At this meeting a cooperation protocol was concluded between the PDPA and the Portuguese Communist Party.

SPA Reports Mujahidin Military Operations

MIG Downed; Crew Killed

GF281604 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1415 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Islamabad, 28 Feb (SPA) — Afghan mujahidin downed a Soviet MIG fighter on a bombing mission of mujahidin strongholds in the (Arghandam) area in Afghanistan early this week.

The Afghan news agency stated today that the captain and crew of the aircraft were killed and that 11 Afghan mujahidin were injured and several houses were destroyed in the bombardment.

3 Helicopters Downed

GF041750 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Islamabad, 4 Mar (SPA) — The Afghan mujahidin shot down three military helicopters of the type Mi-24 near Kabul during the past week killing four Soviet experts on board one of them. The Afghan mujahidin also shot rockets at some important centers inside Kabul, including the DRA Foreign Ministry, which sustained heavy damage.

Diplomatic sources in Islamabad today said that, following the two incidents, the invading Soviet troops and the troops of the DRA regime intensified their military flights and used more flares to avoid the mujahidin missiles which are attracted to heat. These sources added that clashes raged between the mujahidin and the Soviet and DRA troops in Bazarak and (Zawkha) areas in the Panjshir Valley during the past week and that a large number of dead and wounded Soviets were seen taken to the hospitals of Kabul.

The sources pointed out that fierce fighting is now raging between the Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet and the agent Afghan troops in Bazian in Nangarhar District which is near to the Pakistani border. The Soviets are trying to disrupt supplies to the mujahidin.

Correction to Foreign Ministery 'Memorandum'

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Foreign Ministery Hands 'Memorandum' to Iranian Charge" published in the 4 March South Asia *DAILY REPORT* on pp C 1-2:

Page C 1, paragraph three, line four should read: ...have been killed, 24 wounded, and 19... (changing number from "245" to "24")

Gandhi Sees 'Much Progress' in Ties With U.S.

BK050919 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has said nuclear disarmament is the first requisite for translating the philosophy of nonviolence and achieving world peace. Replying to questions by the participants of the international conference of the Young Presidents' Organization in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said India believes that the nuclear arms race can in no way give peace to the world. He expressed happiness over the recent Geneva summit, though not much has come out of it.

On Indo-U.S. relations, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said the two countries have made much progress in bilateral relations during the last 1 year. He expressed the hope that the two countries will come closer as exchanges in the economic and political fields have grown. On being asked to spell out steps for closer relations between the two countries, Mr Gandhi said we have to know each other's view points better. He said the two countries basically stand for democracy, freedom, and humanity, but we have differences in perception on issues like South Africa.

Answering a question on foreign investments in India, Mr Gandhi said India will like to have investments in specific technological areas. Regarding the public sector, the prime miniter said it is a tool in our total development process.

Gandhi on Sri Lanka, Pakistan, USSR, U.S.

BK051405 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister said India wants that the Sri Lankan Government should not merely profess that it wants a political solution to the ethnic problem, but should also take certain action toward it. Replying to the debate on the president address, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said in the Rajya Sabha today that the killing of civilians in Sri Lanka goes on and innocent lives are being lost daily. India tried to bring the two groups in that country together. Some progress has been made, and he hoped that there will be more progress.

Mr Gandhi said the question of immediate and direct concern to India is the flow of refugees. A situation is to be created in which the refugees can return with honor and safety. He denied the Sri Lankan charge of Indian involvement in the developments there. He said the charge is absolutely baseless.

After the prime minister's speech, the house adopted the motion of thanks to the president for his address.

About Pakistan, Mr Gandhi said there is very slow movement toward normalization of relations under the program decided during President Zia's visit to India. India is watching the progress and will react to what happens on the other side. We have done a lot to reduce the tension.

The prime minister made it clear that there is no question of compromising India's integrity and sovereignty.

Describing the Soviet Union as an old, tried, and trusted friend, he said our friendship with that country has been further strengthened. With the United States, the basic mistrust has been removed. But this does not mean that there are no questions in our mind or in theirs.

The prime minister devoted a great part of his speech to planning and antipoverty programs. He said the basic thought behind planning has not changed. The seventh plan is meant to help the poor and the underprivileged.

Statement Issued on Soviet Disarmament Envoy's Visit

BK031451 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1435 GMT 3 Mar 86

["Statement by official spokesman on 2 March, 1986"]

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to the Committee on Disarmament, Dr. Victor Lo Israelyan, visited New Delhi from February 27 to March 2 as a special emissary of the government of the USSR, to explain details of some of the new proposals on disarmament put forward by General Secretary Gorbachev. The Soviet emissary discussed how these proposals could be pursued further in international organisations and through other means.

During this stay in Delhi, Mr Israelyan called on the external affairs minister; chairman (PPC) [Policy Planning Commission]; MOS (EA) [Minister of State for External Affairs]; foreign secretary; and secretary (EAST). The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Shri M. Dubey additional secretary.

The Indian side reiterated India's position that General Secretary Gorbachev's proposals on the elimination of nuclear weapons were bold and constructive. They expressed the hope that these proposals would receive due consideration by the international community and, particularly, the nuclear weapon powers.

The Indian side referred to the recent initiatives in the field of disarmament taken by India. The Indian proposal for a comprehensive ban on testing of nuclear weapons and for a moratorium on such tests as an immediate interim measure was also referred to.

In this context, the Indian side also referred to the details of six-national disarmament initiative.

ROK Prime Minister Holds News Conference

BK041637 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The visiting prime minister of the Republic of Korea, Mr No Sin-yong, has said that closer economic relations between India and South Korea will be a good example of South-South cooperation. Mr No was addressing a news conference in New Delhi today on the eve of his departure at the end of his visit to New Delhi. Referring to India's heavily adverse trade balance with his country, he suggested that the two nations should work together to remove it, but they should not be too hasty. He emphasized that South Korea is trying to identify the items it can

buy from India. Among these, he mentioned iron ore, coal, and cotton.

Mr No disclosed that his discussions in New Delhi covered cooperation in science and technology also. These will be continued and he expected a formal protocol to be finalized soon. He said the team of important business executives accompanying him has been having discussions in New Delhi and he is confident that some tangible results will emerge.

He said his country will mount a 24-hour vigil over the areas to be used for the forthcoming Asian games in Seoul to ensure they held successfully. He said South Korea is determined to see that there is no sabotage or any attempt to torpedo the games.

Mr No's engagements today included a meeting with the external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, at which they reviewed bilateral ties. The president, Giani Zail Singh, hosted a lunch for the South Korean dignitary. In the afternoon. Mr No called on the vice president, Mr Venkataraman. Meanwhile, the economic delegation accompanying Mr No had separate discussions with the ministers for industry and commerce. Mr N.D. Tiwari suggested to the delegation that South Korea should consider more imports of Indian items like tractors and power equipment. Mr Shiv Shanker proposed joint ventures to produce goods that could be exported to South Korea and other neighboring countries.

Former Minister Outlines Reasons for Resignation

BK050949 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Mr K.P. Singh Deo told the Lok Sabha today that he resigned in the Council of Ministers on being informed by the prime minister that, in a charge sheet to be filed by the government against one Mr Ram Swarup, his name appeared along with some other public men. Making a statement explaining the reason for his resignation, Mr Singh Deo said that any suggestion that he had gone to Taiwan at the behest and sponsorship of Ram Swarup is totally baseless. He explained that he had undertaken a study tour of the Far East — including Taiwan — in 1969 as a member of the fourth Lok Sabha. In Taiwan he was a deligate attending the Asian parliamentarians union meet at Taipei. He clarified that the entire expense of the tour was borne by him. Mr Singh Deo pointed out that Ram Swarup might have met him at functions and gatherings where he was also invited. It was neither possible nor feasible on his part as an MP to check antecedents of everyone before being introduced to him. He pleaded that public men should be saved from the insinuations and slander of unscrupulous persons.

Mr (Arvind Netam) and Mr R.S. Jadeja, both Congress-I, also made statements and said they had nothing to do with Ram Swarup. Several opposition and Congress-I members asked the speaker what he proposed to do to protect members from elements who sought to implicate public men to extricate themselves. Mr Balram Jakhar said he is one with the members in this matter, but he would have to find out what can be done under the rule.

Curfew Imposed in Additional Areas of Meerut City

BK041557 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The situation in Meerut City of Uttar Pradesh is under control, but continues to be tense. Curfew was imposed in some more areas of Civil Lines, Mohanpuri, Subhash Nagar, and (Suratkunj).

Kashmir Minorities Protest Recent Disturbances

BK041611 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, employees belonging to the minority communities in the valley today went on a mass casual leave to protest against the recent disturbances in the valley. At certain places, some people also observed fast. Shops and establishments belonging to them remained closed today.

Siachen Glacier Issue To Be Discussed in New Delhi

BK041111 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The defense secretaries of Pakistan and India will meet in New Delhi for further talks on the Siachen glacier issue on any appropriate date convenient to both parties. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi yesterday a spokesman of the Indian External Affairs Ministry said this. Citing the statement of the Indian External Affairs Minister B.R. Bhagat at the parliament, the spokesman said India feels that only by bilateral efforts can the problems between the two countries be solved.

Parliament Secretary Expects U.S. To Meet Commitment

GF041318 Karachi DAWN in English 3 March 86 p 1

[*DAWN* Islamabad bureau]

[Excerpt] Islamabad, March 2: The Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Rana Naeem Mahmud, has said that the government understands that the United States, under bilateral agreement of 1959, is committed to assist Pakistan in case of external aggression.

He was opposing three identical adjourment motions tabled by Mohammad Aslam Kacheela, Begum Ishrat Ashraf and Sheikh Mohammad Rashid on Sunday. The latter two movers were not present in the National Assembly.

The movers sought to discuss recent press reports, based on the documents seized from the American Embassy in Tehran, claiming that the U.S. Government has decided in principle not to help Pakistan in case of aggression.

The parliamentary secretary said the Pakistan Government expected that the United States would fulfill its obligations. He, however, maintained that for defence, the country should rely on its own resources and on the determination of the people to safeguard their independence and territorial integrity, adding that external help could only supplement our efforts and could not be a substitute for them.

Rana Naeem maintained further that the documents seized from the American Embassy and published by newspapers, referred to events in the early sixties. "A lot of development has taken place since then and our relationship with the United States was on a different footing", he added.

The remaining mover did not press the motion after the statement of the parliamentary secretary.

Benazir Bhutto To Return Home 'Very Soon'

AU281637 Paris AFP in English 1622 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpts] London, Feb 28 (AFP) — Benazir Bhutto, exiled president of the Pakistani Popular Party (PPP), will return home "very soon" to test president Ziaul Haq's pledge to restore democracy, PPP leaders said here Friday.

They said Miss Bhutto, daughter of deposed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto — who was executed in 1979 — would appear at public opposition rallies throughout Pakistan, but they did not say when she would leave.

The PPP leaders also said they had come here to discuss a reorganization of the PPP and Pakistani developments since the lifting of martial law in December 31.

Kidnappers Questioned Libyan Hostage on Nuclear Plant

GF041625 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 25 Feb 86 p 1, 7

[Text] Karachi, 24 Feb (staff reporter) — Ahmad Muhammad 'Ammar, deputy director of the Pak-Libya Holding Company, has revealed that his kidnappers wanted to damage Pak-Libya relations. Informed circles have revealed that Ahmad Muhammad 'Ammar had told the inquiry team that the offenders did not want money or to kill him. The culprits, during the course of their interrogation, insisted on asking how much Libya has thus far paid to Pakistan in connection with the atomic power plant, what are the terms, and when are payments made?

Based on 'Ammar's statement, the police are looking for the culprits' hideout, but they have failed to find anything. According to informed sources, Ahmad Muhammad 'Ammar has revealed that Sarwar, the consulate driver is also involved. He said: This is because as soon as he came to know that the police had traced me, he went underground along with the kidnappers. According to another source, the foreign kidnappers of Ahmad 'Ammar had tried to smuggle him out of the country, but due to a quarrel among themselves and intervention of the police, they threw him into some bushes and made their escape.

On a tip from people held in this connection, the police captured the motor launch and the pilot, who were waiting at the Clifton beach on the day of the incident. The pilot of the motor launch said that all he was told was that 'Ammar was to be taken out to sea where a ship was waiting for him. Police sources say that they are keeping the inquiry secret in the interest of the country. As soon as the inquiry is complete and the accused persons are apprehended, full details of the event will be disclosed.

Tribal Leader Reaffirms Support for Government

BK031631 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Malik Wali Khan Kukikhel and his group of tribesmen from the Khyber Agency called on North-West Frontier Province Governor Nawabzada Abdul Ghafoor Khan Hoti in Peshawar today. They reaffirmed their faith in the security and ideology of Pakistan and pledged loyalty to the government and support for its policies. Malik Wali Khan Kukikhel also expressed his commitment to help Khyber Agency authorities implement government policies. Appreciating this, the provincial governor reiterated that the administration of tribal areas will continue according to constitutional provisions. The governor assured them that the special status of tribal areas will be maintained as provided by the Constitution and tribal traditions and customs will be taken care of.

Later addressing a representative tribal assembly, the provincial governor expressed happiness over the fact that everything was settled in a cordial manner and all misgivings were removed. The provincial governor advised the tribesmen to maintain unity within their ranks. Malik Wali Khan Kukikhel referred to sacrifices made by the tribesmen for the establishment of Pakistan. He said that he would continue to serve the beloved country which is a fortress of Islam. Amid cheers, he announced that enemies of Pakistan and Islam cannot be our friends. Earlier, (Malik Guli Shah) said that Jinnah described the tribesmen as the hands of a swordsman. He confirmed that tribesmen will continue to fulfill their responsibilities.

India 'Backtracking' in Normalizing Relations
GF041314 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
2 March 86 p 4

[Editorial: "India Back Tracks"]

[Text] Is the Zia-Rajiv "peace initiative" of last December doomed to meet the same fate as similar moves in the past three decades? It may be too early to pass this verdict, but the Indian Foreign Minister's utterances in the Indian Parliament over the past one week are profoundly disturbing. The most alarming, and also perplexing, is his disclosure that even the accord about non-attack on each other's nuclear installations — so solemnly and categorically affirmed during Zia's brief stay in the Indian capital — was still subject to further haggling before its formalisation in a legal document. And before one could recover from the shock of this blatant back-tracking from a public commitment, the same minister has made some untenable observations on the Siachin Glacier issue which further reinforce the impression that New Delhi is having second thoughts on the process set in motion by the historic declaration of December 17 whereby the top leaders of the two countries publicly pledged themselves to reactivate efforts for achieving a lasting detente, forgiving and forgetting the bitter past.

In the wake of this new resolve at the highest level, some meaningful progress was reported at several meetings held between the key functionaries of the two countries during the past two-and-a-half months for solving some outstanding problems, including hammering out of a treaty binding them to the renunciation of force for settling bilateral disputes. But the series of statements that the Indian foreign minister has chosen to make over the past few days appear to cancel out whatever has been achieved to further the process of restoring sane and normal relations between two uneasy neighbours. He has in fact gone to the extent of questioning the very logic of continuing a useful and result-oriented dialogue on crucial issues for the time being cancelling in the process his own planned visit to Pakistan this month. He has not only mentioned no new date for his postponed visit but also cast doubt on the possibility of Rajiv's promised journey to Pakistan materialising this summer. All this indeed looks ominous after last December's hopeful developments.

It is not clear what are those special 'factors' which the Indian foreign minister now thinks are causing some impediments in the smooth continuation of a dialogue between the two sides. Islamabad has not so far officially reacted to these noises from New Delhi. Our Government's silence on the subject indicates that it is still hoping that all is not lost and that the Indian Foreign Minister may only be playing to the gallery in the Indian Parliament. Whatever its interpretation or assessment of this sudden turn in events, it must seek immediate clarifications from New Delhi and promptly take the people into confidence. India's back-tracking on its solemn commitments may be a temporary aberration stemming from some uneasiness about developments at home, particularly in the Indian Punjab. Or is it that it is no longer inclined to respond to American pressures on the issue because some of its objectives have been achieved, as for example the procurement of computer technology? Going by past experience — as in early sixties in the wake of Sino-Indian conflict — it needs to be clearly understood that the normalisation efforts motivated and launched under Western pressures are hardly meaningful enough to be enduring. The two neighbours must take their own independent initiative to establish friction-free relationship on a realistic basis. There are already enough people in this country who are not disposed to put trust in India's professions. This impression is bound to spread if New Delhi tailors its tactics every now and then to suit its convenience.

Harkat-i Islamic Party Chief Proposes Conference
GF271216 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
19 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 18: Ayatollah Muhammad Asif Mohsini, chief of the Iran-based Harkat-i-Islami, an organisation of the Afghan 'mujahidin', has expressed its readiness to sit at the negotiating table with the Soviet Union, if it announces its intent to withdraw troops from Afghanistan.

But, he said, the Afghans would not negotiate with the Karmal regime as they considered it an 'illegitimate entity'. The ayatollah was talking to *THE MUSLIM* here.

He cautioned that the Soviets must be clear in their minds that such parleys should not lead to the imposition of the hegemony of any state over Afghanistan. They should accept its sovereign and independent character.

Another formula the ayatollah proposed to resolve the Afghan crisis was that a conference participated by Pakistan, Iran, the mujahidin, Soviets and Karmal regime should be arranged. He felt that Babrak Karmal was a 'stooge' of the Soviets and the Afghans were actually fighting against foreign troops.

In response to a question, the Afghan leader said the attitude of all Arab states towards the Afghan crisis was 'negative' and no country from that region had helped the Afghans. He believed that it would have been surely a decisive factor if the Arab states had snapped diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union for invading Afghanistan only for a few months. But none of them did so.

Answering another question as to why there was no unity among all factions of the mujahidin when all claim to be pitched against one common enemy, the ayatollah said: 'we have tried to bring them together in accordance with the 'dictates of our religion' but have not so far achieved our aim. The efforts are continuing.'

Elaborating, the Afghan leader said that were two reasons for lack of unity among the freedom fighters — unnecessary intervention by foreign countries in the affairs of mujahidin and the urge among leaders to become more prominent. However, he hoped that the differences would be sorted out.

The ayatollah claimed that 'internally we are all united on the ground against Soviet garrisons, though there are discordant opinions over organisation and leadership'. He said his fighters were engaged in fierce fighting in Meydan, Nimruz, Chaghcharan, Bamian, Ghazni, Samangan, Balkh, etc. They downed seven enemy war planes during the last 40 days. From where did his fighters secure arms? The Afghan leader said, "we buy them from the bazaar and raise funds for the purpose from over 1.5 million Afghans refugees living in Iran as khums [one fifth of their earnings religious tax]."

He believed that the Soviet high command was turning 'weak' every day and was facing much diplomatic and political pressure from the world community to withdraw its troops. He declared that the Soviets could not usurp his country as they did in the case of Turkestan.

He described Iraq as the agressor in its prolonged war with Iran. The ayatollah said the fighters were not getting arms from Iran but receiving help and accommodation on 'humanitarian grounds'.

Ayatollah Mohsini, 51, says he represents 90 per cent of the 35 per cent Shia population of Afghanistan plus a large number of Sunnis. Author of more than 40 books in different languages, he migrated to Iran after the Soviet invasion. He says he makes no distinction between Shia and Sunni. His organisation has its headquarter in the holy city of Qom.

Afghan Rebels Destroy Military Camp in Jowzjan

BK051024 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin have wiped out a newly established military camp at (Nurdin Quila) in Jowzjan Province. Reports say that during the operation several Soviet-Karmal troops were killed and injured.

Correction to Mounting Tension With India

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Tension With India Mounts Over 'Interference' Charge" published in the 28 February South Asia *DAILY REPORT* on page F 1:

Last paragraph, line two should read: ...an increase are slim, and that Washington is worried by any increase in tension between New Delhi... (supplying dropped line)

SRI LANKA

Ban on Fishing Imposed Along North Coast

BK011219 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The government has imposed a temporary ban on fishing in the territorial waters of Sri Lanka extending from the Talaimanner old pier to Chundikkulam. The prohibition will also cover the waters of the Jaffna Lagoon. The fishermen affected by this ban will be immediately entitled the normal relief that is granted to them when a total ban on fishing was first imposed in November 1984. The government will consider granting further relief if representations are made to the respective government agents by those affected.

According to a communique issued by the Ministry of National Security, Indian fishermen will enjoy access to Kachchativu in terms of the agreement between India and Sri Lanka reached in 1974. The government has been compelled to impose this ban in view of the reliable information received that large quantities of arms, ammunition, and explosives are being transported illegally across the Palk Straits to the northern, northeastern, and northwestern coasts of Sri Lanka.

Confirmed reports indicate that there were at least 14 boat movements across the Palk Straits from south India to the north and east of Sri Lanka carrying weapons, explosives, and trained terrorists.

The government will lift the ban no sooner these illegal movements of men and material from south India ceases.

Foreign Ministry on 'Unfriendly' Indian Statements

BK011213 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Sri Lanka has taken serious note of recent unfriendly Indian Government statements concerning Sri Lanka, in particular the government has learned with surprise and deep disappointment of certain remarks the Indian external affairs minister made in the course of proceedings in the Indian Parliament touching Sri Lanka's present situation.

A statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Colombo said that the government notes with regret that while the Indian Government has though fit to use the term genocide in connection with the alleged killing of Tamil persons, it has not made any comment about the known recent killings of several Sinhalese and Muslim persons, including women and children, by terrorists. The statement adds that there has also been mention of the imposition by India of a time frame for the completion of certain actions by the Government of Sri Lanka. It is, of course, a setback as the Indian Government has (?expressed and repeatedly) emphasized its good offices were offered in the context of facilitating the discharge of the Sri Lanka Government's exclusive responsibility with the resolution of an internal Sri Lankan problem. The government, working within the framework of a democratic policy, has to perceive these attempts at resolving current problems on the basis of consensual acceptance of such resolutions. It says that a time frame cannot be conceived of unless such time frame is also applied to the interdiction and removal of Indian-based terrorists against Sri Lanka. The time frame imposed on the party alone is no time frame at all but is an indication of bias in approaching the matter.

The Government of Sri Lanka has made repeated, detailed and specific representations to the Indian Government since 1983 and has repeatedly proposed specific and precise administrative and other procedures to overcome the ethnic problem. It is with deep regret that the government restates that up till now it has had no positive response in regard to the terrorist challenge which stems from the movement, which has logistical training and operational base facilities. To that extent the value of (?the offer) of good offices of the Indian Government stands impaired and its credibility diluted.

Minister Views Charges of Human Rights Violations

BK021135 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Sri Lanka is preparing her answer to be given at the UN human rights meeting in Geneva [words indistinct] the question of so-called human right violation (?is being denied). The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, said that we have our answer and we will give them at the proper time.

Asked about reports that India's external affairs minister, Mr Bhagat, has requested their representative in Geneva to raise the issue of human right violation in Sri Lanka, Mr Athulathmudali pointed out that Sri Lanka had a much better record on human rights than most others who talk about it. Asked whether a (?Tamil) representative from Sri Lanka would be sent to Geneva to answer any charges, the minister said that such a necessity had not arisen.

8 People Killed in Incidents in North, East

BK030316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, eight persons including three soldiers and a journalist were killed in two separate incidents in the northern and eastern provinces in the last 48 hours. A spokesman of the National Security Ministry said in Colombo that three soldiers and two civilians were killed when the vehicle in which they were traveling hit a landmine in the northern Vavuniya District.

In the second incident in the eastern Batticaloa District three persons including a correspondnet of a Tamil daily were shot dead by security forces during a search operation.

Musavi Meets With Nicaraguan Envoy Murillo

LD042258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Murillo, Nicaragua's ambassador to Tehran, met Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi this afternoon. Expressing regret for the use of chemical bombs and the attack on Iran's populated centers by the Iraqi regime, he paid tribute to the recent operations by Islam's combatants during the meeting. Referring to the economic and military pressures brought to bear on the Nicaraguan people by the United States and its agents in the region, he also declared the Nicaraguan people's resolve to continue their struggle.

Prime Minister Musavi too, while emphasizing Iran's complete support for the struggles of the Nicaraguan people, noted the joint stands of the two countries and said: In close proximity to us, too, there is a cooperation council with the United States in the Persian Gulf through which the United States is hatching its plots in the region. Of course, the sum total of the populations of these countries is less than the population of Tehran, and for a start, the peoples of these countries also are supporting the Islamic Revolution and are against the United States and the arrogant powers!

The prime minister emphasized: The Islamic Republic of Iran has never procrastinated in giving a crushing rebuff to their childish plots and will never do so!

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Reiterates Stance on War

LD050541 Tehran IRNA in English 0536 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 5, IRNA — A spokesman for Foreign Affairs Ministry reiterated here Tuesday night the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards the Iraqi-imposed war and stressed that this policy would be decisively followed until the downfall of the Iraqi regime.

Referring to recent stance taken by some Arab states in the Persian Gulf region, the spokesman said that Iran's policy vis-a-vis the war imposed by the Baghdad regime was crystal clear, adding that no country was authorized to interfere in the sacred defence of the Iranian people.

The spokesman said that Iran had repeatedly announced it had no ambitions on the Iraqi territory and offensives launched to liberate that country were aimed at rooting out aggression from the region.

"No doubt", he added "it would be in the interest of small Arab countries in the Persian Gulf region not to fan the flames of fire started by Saddam and let he himself fall a victim to his own mischiefs."

Since the very beginning of the war, the Iraqi ruler had attacked oil fields, cargo ships and oil tankers in order to spread the war to the Persian Gulf region, the spokesman said.

He noted that regional states which were fully aware of the consequences of this diabolic move of the Iraqi regime, should abandon their support for Iraq and refrain from escalating the war.

He called on the regional states not to stand before a nation which, despite all plots and pressure exerted by international arrogance, has been powerfully resisting the aggressor and is determined to uproot aggression.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly announced its interest in establishing good neighbourly relations and expanding ties with Arab countries of the Persian Gulf region, he said.

Therefore, the spokesman added, Iran believed that any regional or international effort to save the Iraqi ruler was doomed.

He said that these countries should consider the security in the region and fate of Iraq after the downfall of Saddam Husayn.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Warns UN on Iraqi Attacks

LD050848 Tehran IRNA in English 0834 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 5, IRNA — The Majlis speaker, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, here Wednesday warned the United Nations against the renewed Iraqi attacks on Iranian cities, otherwise, it would be responsible for the consequences.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani who is also the spokesman for the Supreme Defence Council, was speaking at the open session of the Majlis Wednesday morning.

He made the remarks in reference to the Tuesday Iraqi air attack on the southern Iranian city of Shadegan which claimed lives of some 12 civilians.

"If mischiefs of Saddam are not stopped, they (international organizations) will be responsible for the consequences," which, he said, would be extensive.

"The Iraqi attack on the city of Shadegan," he added "martyring and injuring a number of people showed that despair of Saddam may make him to embark on similar crimes."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said "We are warning international organizations and the United Nations in particular against this."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Confers With FRG Parliamentarian

LD041056 Tehran IRNA in English 0745 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 4, IRNA — The visiting West German parliamentarian, Hans Stercken, in a meeting with Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Monday said that the Islamic Republic of Iran should insist on its righteousness in the war and strongly advocate its support for the Iraqi people.

He said that public opinion in Europe had been turned against Iran on the issue of war due to extensive fictious propaganda.

In reply Hashemi-Rafsanjani lauded Stercken for his support for the righteousness and truth.

He called on the West German official to deal seriously with issues such as the situation in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Eritria, Iraq-Iran war and issues relevant to the Arab world.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani further noted that parliament members in each country should play an active role in the affairs of their countries and meet their responsibilities through implementing approvals of decision making bodies.

Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the West German official then discussed political development in the region following the recent developments in the war and liberation of the Iraqi port city of Al-Faw.

Meanwhile, Stercken met and conferred with the head of foreign policy committee of the Majlis, Ahmad 'Azizi, and discussed expansion of bilateral relaations as well as strengthening parliamentary ties.

Economic Minister Iravani Arrives in SFRY

LD041040 Tehran IRNA in English 0534 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Belgrade, March 4, IRNA — The Iranian minister of economics and financial affairs, Mohammad Javad Iravani, heading an 18-member delegation arrived here Monday night for the annual meeting of the joint economic commission.

The delegation was weclomed by the Yugoslav member of the cabinet, Nedeljko Mandic, and a number of officials.

The committee in its three-day session due to begin Tuesday, will discuss ways of further expanding mutual cooperation.

An agreement on trade exchange is signed at the end of the session held annually in the capitals of each countries.

During his stay in Yugoslavia, Iravani is due to pay visits to the Croatia Republic and also to the newly established mosque in Zagreb.

Meets President Vlajkovic

LD050900 Tehran IRNA in English 0808 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Belgrade, March 5, IRNA — The visiting Iranian minister of economic and financial affairs, Mohammad Javad Iravani, met the Yugoslav president, Radovan Vlajkovic, here Tuesday.

During the meeting the Iranian minister handed over a message from President Khamene'i to President Vlajkovic.

Iravani is heading an 18-member delegation to the current session of the joint economic commission of Iran and Yugoslavia in Belgrade.

In the course of a one-hour meeting, President Vlajkovic and the Iranian minister discussed possibilities to expand bilateral relations, as well as situation in the Middle East and the Iraqi imposed war.

Vlajkovic and Iravani also discussed the Non-Aligned Movement, particularly in reference to the forthcoming Harare summit. Both countries will make a joint efforts to contribute to the success of the summit.

The Iranian minister, as co-chairman of the joint commission, held talks with government member, Nedeljko Mandic, who is the head of the Yugoslav delegation to the commission, Tuesday.

Despite trade agreements signed between the two countries in the past three years calling for an increase in the volume of bilateral trade, over the period figures show a constant decline.

Volume of bilateral trade stood at about 6000 million dollars for 1983 and at 360 million and 280 million for 1984 and 1985 respectively.

Discussion of oil price is included in the agenda since import of Iranian crude is a major item in trade between the two countries.

According to an agreement signed between the two countries in Tehran last year, the volume of bilateral trade was expected to amount to 700 million dollars. However, the volume of trade for the year has not reached the level.

The objective of the visit of the Iranian delegation to Yugoslavia is to pave the way for the implementation of previous protocols and also sign a new protocol for further expansion of economic and industrial relations.

During the past 10 months Iran has exported 4-million-dollar worth of non-oil goods to Yugoslavia including minerals, carpets and hide and has imported paper, electrical machinery, fabrics, and plastic materials.

Iravani Tuesday left Belgrade for Zagreb, capital of the Republic of Croatia, where he will hold talks with the republic's officials. The minister is also due to visit the newly-built mosque in Zagreb.

Pakistani President Receives Deputy Foreign Minister

LD040942 Tehran IRNA in English 1836 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 3, IRNA — Iran's deputy foreign minister for international and economic affairs, Mohammad Javad Larijani, met in Islamabad with Pakistan's President Ziaul Haq Monday.

At the meeting, talks were held on victorious operations of the Islamic forces of Iran and military-political effects of the successful offensives.

Larijani also briefed the Pakistani president on the crimes of the Iraqi regime stressing the significance of the current situation as well as the need for the regional countries to adopt appropriate stances vis-a-vis such developments.

The Pakistani president expressed hope that the war would end in the interest of "Islam and Muslims." Views were also exchanged in the meeting on expansion of bilateral relations as well as other issues of mutual interest.

The deputy foreign minister is heading a delegation to the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) meet currently underway in Islamabad.

Meanwhile, Larijani at the Monday's ECO session said the newly established organization has provided firm foundations for expansion of trilateral ties among Turkey, Pakistan and Iran

He furthermore expressed hope that the three countries would witness more positive cooperation during the coming year.

Delegation in SDAR Meets Prime Minister

LD041106 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 4, IRNA — The Iranian delegation currently visiting the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) Monday reiterated Iran's support for the liberation movement and struggles of Muslim people of Sahara.

The Iranian delegation is in the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic to take part in ceremonies marking anniversary of SADR's independence.

In a meeting with SADR Prime Minister Mohamed Lamine Monday, head of the Iranian delegation Asghar-Nia discussed situation in Iraq-Iran war, Iraqi crimes against Muslim Iranians including deployment of chemical weapons and air raids of residential areas, and attack on an Iranian passenger plane.

Mohamed Lamine said that his country had constantly supported Iran's stance in the Iraqi imposed war and victories of the Islamic combatants of Iran in the war.

He said that prior to the Islamic revolution of Iran, munition seized by Saharan revolutionaries from King Hassan forces were all Zionist weapons sent to King Hassan of Morocco by the toppled shah of Iran and Saddam Husayn of Iraq.

Iraqi Attacks on Cities Not To Remain Unanswered

LD050633 Tehran IRNA in English 0630 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 5, IRNA — Iraq's renewed attacks on residential areas in Iran will not remain unanswered, a spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) said here Wednesday.

The spokesman once again called on international organizations to make utmost efforts to prevent the Iraqi regime from infringing international regulations and violating human rights.

Otherwise, he stressed, the Islamic combatants of Iran by embarking on retaliatory measures will put the Baghdad regime in a dead end.

The WIH spokesman told IRNA that the Islamic Republic of Iran, to further inform international organizations and world public opinion of Iraq's crimes, has invited the Tehran-based U.N. team to inspect areas bombed in the southern city of Shadegan.

Iraqi warplanes struck residential quarters in the city of Shadegan, south of Ahvaz in Khuzestan Province, two times Tuesday martyring 12 and injuring 72 civilians.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2393

LD041549 Tehran IRNA in English 1534 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 4, IRNA — Iranian Muslim Forces in an ambush attack on Iraqi positions in Panjwin Monday night liberated more heights of the region killing and wounding a large number of Iraqi soldiers, according to a communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Tuesday.

In its communique number 2393, the command says that invading Iraqi war planes bombarded the city of Shadegan in Khuzestan Province early Tuesday.

The communique says that at least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several gun emplacements of theirs were destroyed in the western fronts.

Iran's Muslim combatants repulsed the reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in Halaieh, Mandali and Sumar and shelled Iraqi artillery and motorized units elsewhere in Kani-Sheykh and Halaleh disturbing their movements and inflicting damage on them, according to the communique.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, Iraqi positions came under Iranian artillery fire. The heavier fire exchanges in the said fronts were reported in Sardasht, in west Azarbaijan Province.

Iranian forces reconnoitered and shelled several Iraqi tank and truck columns in Yabis and Hoseyniyeh, both in the southern fronts, possibly inflicting casualties and losses on them, reports the command.

Meanwhile, the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province were targets of Iraqi aerial raid and long-range artillery fire Monday as a result of which some buildings were damaged and some cases of fire broke out in various parts of the cities.

Iraqi Downing of F-4 Denied

LD041726 Tehran IRNA in English 1651 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 4, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters [WIH] of Iran on Tuesday refuted the Iraqi claim Monday of having downed an Iranian F-4 fighter plane over the Iraqi airspace.

A spokesman of Iran's WIH said Tuesday that on Monday the Iranian Air Force had successfully performed extra-territorial missions and had all returned safely to their bases.

2,000 POW's Taken to Tehran

LD041725 Tehran IRNA in English 1654 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., March 4, IRNA — About 2,000 Iraqi prisoners of war taken captive in Val-Fajr-8 operations in Al-Faw region were transferred to Tehran aboard 60 buses.

The Iranian Muslim combatants began their ongoing Val-Fajr-8 offensive on February 12 in of [as received] Al-Faw of Iraq and Arvand River and have since liberated at least 800 kilometers of the Al-Faw peninsula.

More than 2,000 Iraqi soldiers have been taken prisoners and 20,000 killed or wounded so far in the Val-Fajr-8 operational region.

The Iranian Muslim combatants have suppressed all Iraqi counter-offensives, and have prevented them from taking back even one inch of the liberated territory.

'Penetration' Operation Conducted

LD041742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The Hamzeh Sayyed al-Shohoda base reports that simultaneously with the conspicuous victories of the armies of Islam in the proud "Val-Fajr-8" and "Val-Fajr-9" operations, the valiant sons of Islam's nation succeeded in delivering terrible blows to the infidel enemies and their lackeys in the difficult and strategic heights of (?Qaneh) and Sar Tang overlooking the Iraqi town of Halabjah, during a penetration operation at 0300 today. The operation was to destroy the defeated Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist forces and international arrogance's mercenaries, as well as pound enemy troop concentrations and equipment, and disintegrate the dens of corruption of local rebels, counterrevolutionaries, and those associated with the 'Aflaqi party.

In these penetration operations, the warriors of Islamic armies, with their lightning onslaught on enemy positions, killed more than 100 of the Ba'thist forces and of the rebels, counterrevolutionaries, and agents associated with the criminal Saddamists, and destroyed troop concentrations of the infidel Ba'thists and their defeated associates. Several Iraqi officers and leaders of the local counterrevolutionaries were among those killed. In these operations, a quantity of heavy and light arms was either destroyed or captured intact by Islam's combatants.

Iraqi Naval Craft Sunk, Damaged

LD041745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] According to a report from Khatam ol-Anbiya', the joint operational center of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces and the Islamic Republic Guards Corps [IRGC], in the course of heavy battles on the southern axes of the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater the naval combatants of the IRGC successfully concentrated accurate and heavy fire on four advanced enemy naval craft which were within range of the radar of the Islamic forces in the waters of Khawr 'Abdallah. While inflicting heavy damage on three of these, they destroyed the other along with all its crew and sent it to the bottom of Khawr 'Abdallah.

Also the fighter aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force in a series of operations at different times today heavily bombed the command headquarters, assembly points, and the heavy supply vehicles of the defeated Iraqi Army. Similarly, a headquarters and an assembly point of enemy troops on the highway linking the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr-Al-Bihar axes were bombed and destroyed by our pilots.

The fast-flying pilots of the Army aviation force also carryied out a series of operations on the Al-Faw-Basrah and Al-Faw-Umm Qasr highways, and totally crushed and set ablaze the assembly points and trenches of the Ba'thist enemy.

Iraqi Helicopter Downed

LD041749 Tehran IRNA in English 1732 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 4, IRNA — Iran's anti-aircraft fire downed an Iraqi helicopter in Val-Fajr-9 operation region Monday. Its pilot was killed in the crash.

The downed chopper was about to pound Iranian positions in a liberated region north east of Al-Sulaymaniyah.

In its military Communique Number 2135 Tuesday the Iraqi regime confessed to the downing of its chopper.

Iraqi Operations 'Paralyzed'

LD041833 Tehran IRNA in English 1804 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Faw, March 4, IRNA — Iranian Muslim forces are continuing their purge of nearly 900 square kms of liberated lands in Val-Fajr-8 operational theater and have severely checked all transport Iraqi troops in the region, an Iranian military commander told IRNA Tuesday.

The commander said that Iran's Islamic combatants are holding out firmly in their positions and are preventing enemy troops from carrying out any offensive.

The Iranian forces started burying the bodies of Iraqi soldiers killed in the course of many attempted Iraqi counter-assaults in the region.

He said that Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the region has inflicted substantial casualties and damage on Iraqi forces and paralyzed their operations.

'Political Review' Examines GCC Stand on Gulf War

LD041331 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1102 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Unattributed "Political Review"]

[Text] Yesterday, the GCC foreign ministers concluded their 18th session in Riyadh with a statement. The six member-

countries — the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, and Oman — concluded their session while the combatants of Islam demonstrated their strength against the enemy in the "Val-Fajr-8" and 9 operational zones.

Despite of the might of the combatants of Islam, the legitimate demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran, our country's policy regarding the security of the Persian Gulf, and our good-neighborly relations with the littoral states, the GCC again unfortunately refused to accept facts and insisted on its previous stance. This stance has been proven to be ineffectual and does not consider Iraq's aggression, the occupation of a large portion of our border regions in the early stages of the imposed war, and finally Saddam's inhuman crimes.

The GCC was formed while Iraqi forces were occupying part of our Islamic homeland. Nevertheless, the council has so far refrained from adopting any kind of stand on the aggression of the Iraqi regime. At that time, the occupation of our lands by Iraqi forces and the destruction of several towns and thousands of villages did not draw their attention to the fact that these crimes were committed against Iran, an Islamic country and a member of the Islamic Conference Organization.

But now that the combatants of Islam have entered Iraqi territory in order to regain the rights of our country's Muslim nation and to crush the source of the aggression, they have suddenly decided to condemn what they call the occupation of an Arab country. The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly stressed that it does not covet Iraqi territory and that it will return the liberated areas to the Iraqi people when it has reached its legitimate goals. The Muslim people of Iraq will determine their own fate.

Despite the fact that our country's officials have stressed that they did not start the war and do not wish to spread it to other countries in the region, unfortunately some GCC member governments have been influenced by world propaganda and yielded to the Iraqi regime's pressure, saying in their recent statement that Iran's threats undermine the security and stability of the region.

The statement of the GCC goes on to say in a hasty and uncalculated tone that the joint forces of the council are ready to intervene in any area facing any danger from these threats.

So far, although certain GCC member governments have given, and are giving, the enemy a great deal of financial and propaganda assistance, in order to safeguard the security of the Persian Gulf and prevent intervention by foreign forces and disturbance in the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran has overlooked all these errors and wrongdoings. On the other hand, the combatants of Islam have shown in all their operations, especially "Val-Fajr-8" and 9, that no power in the region can stand against them.

Despite all this, these inept stands by the GCC show that some of these governments are still trying to pass on orders received from abroad. They have said that they support Iraq's positive stand for a peaceful end to the war. They have asked Arab governments to take a united stand to deal with the dangerous situation in the region. But such diversionary, submissive, and imaginary stands will have no effect on the plans and aims of the combatants of Islam. They will merely be recorded as a black mark on the performance sheet of the GCC. These countries had better see the light and stay away from falsehood before it is too late.

Commentary Views Kuwait's Support for Saddam

GF040920 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 4 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* carries a report on the Kuwaiti rulers' continued support for the Saddam regime. The paper says: Continuing its financial, moral, and media support, the Kuwaiti authorities have asked their media not to report any victories by the Islamic forces, particularly in the Iraqi Al-Faw region; to be satisfied with the communiques issued by Saddam's army command; and to refrain from using any terms in the news bulletins which might suggest the weakness and collapse of the Iraqi regime's forces. The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers last week ordered all papers, radio, and television to increase the number of news items and reports that reflect favorably on the Saddam regime, to cover up and mask all the defeats suffered by the Saddam regime on the battlefronts, and consequently to belittle the importance of the victories accomplished by the forces of Islam and the high morale of the Muslim fighters.

However, the Kuwaiti Government was not satisfied with this. The Kuwaiti information minister was told that he must apprise the GCC General Secretariat on the Kuwaiti Government's recent resolutions that pertain to supporting Saddam so that all GCC countries can follow suit in implementing these resolutions. The Kuwaiti information minister also telephoned Saddamist Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim to inform him of this new step.

The paper adds that this very line of the Kuwaiti Government demonstrates its hostile policy toward the Islamic Republic of Iran — a policy which has caused it to mobilize all its capabilities and place them at the disposal of the Saddam regime.

Commentary on Visit of UN Chemical Warfare Experts

GF030920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0514 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Commentary by the Central News research group: "The UN Chemical Experts Team"]

[Text] The team of chemical experts from the United Nations that visited the war zones and collected information on the criminal actions of the 'Aflaqist Iraqi regime, which used chemical weapons, ended its mission. The team announced that it will submit a report on its findings to the UN secretary general in about 12 to 14 days. The team consisted of seven experts, five of whom had visited Tehran previously on the same sort of mission. The other two remained in Tehran.

After repeated complaints by the Iranian mission at the United Nations on Iraq's use of chemical weapons, the UN team of experts arrived in Tehran.

The 'Aflaqist Iraqi regime since the beginning of the "Val-Fajr-8" operations on 9 February again used chemical weapons on 10 occasions. Various chemical weapons that the 'Aflaqist regime of Iraq used are more deadly than those used earlier, thereby resulting in greater injuries to our military and civilian personnel.

In this use of chemical weapons, which violates the Geneva protocol of 1925, the Iraqi regime is being supported by certain European countries. Almost every day news is being received on cooperation and collusion by some European countries in this crime. Recently it was reported that a Belgian branch of the U.S. (Free Petroleum) Company and a Dutch company had contracted to sell prohibited chemicals to Iraq in 1983. Earlier, the United States, the United Kingdom, West Germany, and Chile had been named as being involved in this sort of collusion. This shows that the 'Aflaqist regime in Iraq is not alone in its war crimes and is being supported by other countries as well. The types of various stronger and sophisticated chemical weapons that Iraq has been using this time cannot be produced domestically. This proves that other countries share in this crime, countries that are advanced in this science. The elements that have joined hands and have permitted the 'Aflaqist Iraqi regime to make use of chemical weapons betray the antihuman stance of the superpowers regarding the imposed war. This is a stance of the powers scared of a possible Iranian victory, who are arming Saddam yet cannot protect him. It is the stance of the powers that have repeated debates in the UN Security Council or in voting on resolutions connected with the imposed war. They have followed their true nature and supported the 'Aflaqist regime in Iraq.

It is these antihuman elements that have been encouraging the 'Aflaqist regime of Iraq in increasing its crimes and in its repeated violations of the international rules. The reaction of the international bodies on the war crimes of the 'Aflaqist Iraqi regime has been so irresponsible that today the Iraqi 'Aflaqist regime does not feel any restrictions in committing war crimes. The Iraqi regime, although it has formally endorsed the protocol against the use of chemical weapons, refers to such weapons as (?scaring) and secret weapons. The Iraqi 'Aflaqists feel so free in using these chemical weapons that even during the visit by the foreign correspondents to the liberated area of the "Val-Fajr-8" operations, they continued dropping chemical bombs. Correspondents of the world media witnessed this war crime by the Iraqi regime.

Now let us see how they expressed their observations. A BBC correspondent reported that while they were visiting Al-Faw an Iraqi plane dropped a bomb that gave off grey smoke. Their Iranian guide said this was a chemical bomb. Such a report means that the correspondent was afraid to make a direct observation and when the occasion arose he quoted others rather than make his own observations. This matter shows how much cover is being provided to the crimes of the 'Aflaqist Iraqi regime in the world media. But in connection with the Iraqi use of chemical weapons, the real matter is not whether the Iraqis are indeed using such weapons. What matters to superpowers and supporters of the 'Aflaqists is how can the 'Aflaqists stop the advance of the Muslim fighters. This trend can be seen in the UN Security Council as well. For UN Security Council members, words like (?meanness), agreement, responsibility, or transgression are funny words. However, what constitutes the center of the actions of this organization is the benefit and individual satisfaction of the superpowers. Otherwise, how can we reconcile the recent resolution of the UN Security Council with the facts — as reported by foreign radios — that several UN Security Council members were convinced that Iraq had been using chemical weapons. They also expressed their concern over the matter. The UN Security Council has repeatedly proved that it is (?partial) and has an eye on the interests of the 'Aflaqist enemy.

The visit of the UN teams to our country, their observations and collection of documents regarding the crimes of the 'Aflaqist regime, which constitute the basis of their report to the UN secretary general, must show everything openly and with proper proof of what they saw. The 'Aflaqists and their supporters must be exposed by using evidence and documents so that in the future history may judge who really imposed this war.

International and regional groups have nothing to gain by their irresponsible conduct; the same goes for the Security Council. The responsibility for such matters also rests on the shoulders of the nonaligned countries and the Islamic Conference Organization. However these organizations have done little about the war crimes of the 'Aflaqists. It may also be noted that these organizations consider themselves effective. However they do not consider themselves capable of mediation, as they are aware that in this matter they must first name who actually began the imposed war and what party committed war crimes. This must be made clear first. This matter also worries the GCC. Recently the foreign ministers of GCC countries met in Saudi Arabia and discussed the latest developments in the imposed war. Some were concerned over Iranian progress in the strategic "Val-Fajr-8" area and feared that the war might escalate and the fire reach them as well. This fear was a great deal of talk. However, the Kuwait media, which has connections with the CIA, Iraq, Israel, and 'Aflaqist Iraqis, went even further and called on all Arabs to support Saddam. This happened although the Kuwaiti Government controls Kuwaiti publications. But if the GCC looked at the imposed war issue without considering the imposing attitude of Saddam, it may find its position in the true perspective and may support the Iranian position. If it does no harm will come to it. Our nation today is determined to gain its right from the enemy by using force. In this matter it has shown willingness and determination. In this matter the august nation is seeking its right and is blessed with God's grace. Only realism and truth can help most.